AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c), this separate paper is submitted showing the claim listing of all claims ever presented in the instant case.

1-3 (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 34, wherein the supplying includes providing the liquid as a composition selected from a group consisting of a gelatin, a starch, cellulose, a cellulose derivative, a water-soluble polymer, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, polyvinyl alcohol, polysucrose, and a sugar.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 34, wherein the supplying includes providing as the liquid a solution consisting essentially of 5 grams of fish gelatin in a solvent consisting of from 7 to 9 milliliters of water and 10 to 11 milliliters of ethanol.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 34, which comprises supplying as the liquid a solution consisting essentially of 5 grams of fish gelatin in a solvent consisting of 8 milliliters of water, 10 milliliters of ethanol and 1 milliliter of peppermint flavoring.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 34, which comprises providing an air flow to encourage the deposition of the at least one fiber or fibrils on the surface.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 34, which further comprises regulating temperature of a region where the liquid issues from the outlet to facilitate the formation of the at least one fiber or fibrils.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 34, which comprises establishing the electric field by applying a high voltage to the surface.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 34, which further comprises using as the surface a rotatable endless surface.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 34, wherein the providing of the active ingredient is incorporated into the at least one fiber or fibrils.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 34, which further comprises forming the at least one fiber or fibrils with a core containing the at least one active ingredient.

15. (Previously Presented) A method of manufacturing a pharmaceutical product which further comprises using a method in accordance with claim 34 and providing as the at least one active ingredient an ingredient which is pharmacologically or biologically active.

16. (Previously Presented) A method of manufacturing a confectionary product which comprises using a method in accordance with claim 34 to form the plurality of individual tablets and incorporating as the at least one active ingredient at least one of the following: sugar; chocolate; a flavoring; and a colorant.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 48, wherein the cutting means comprises at least one cutter.

19. (Previously Presented) Apparatus for manufacturing consumable or dissolvable tablets, comprising:

means for supplying a liquid containing a dissolvable carrier through a liquid supply tube to an outlet of the tube;

means for establishing an electric field between the outlet and a support surface spaced from the outlet to cause liquid issuing from the outlet to form at least one fiber or fibrils of the dissolvable carrier, the support surface comprising at least one recess;

means for causing the fiber or fibrils to deposit onto the support surface to form a fibrous porous web or mat;

means for establishing a charge on the at least one recess, the charge being opposite a charge on the fiber or fibrils;

means for establishing a charge on a portion of the support surface which does not comprise the at least one recess, the charge being like the charge on the fiber or fibrils; and

means for incorporating at least one active ingredient into the web or mat, the individual tablets being configured to melt, liquefy, disintegrate or dissolve on moist tissue surfaces other than those of the respiratory and gastrointestinal systems, and further wherein said fiber or fibrils at least partially coat said active ingredient within said web or mat.

20. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the liquid is a supply selected from a group consisting of a gelatin, starch, cellulose, a cellulose derivative, a water soluble polymer, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, polyvinyl alcohol, poly-sucrose, a sugar.

21. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the liquid is a supply selected from a group consisting of a solution consisting essentially of 5 grams of gelatin in 7 to 9 milliliters of water and 10 to 11 milliliters of ethanol.

22. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the liquid is a supply of a solution consisting essentially of 5 grams of gelatin in 8 milliliters of water, 10 milliliters of ethanol and 1 milliliter of peppermint flavoring.

23. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising air flow causing means for facilitating the deposition of the at least one fiber or fibrils onto the support.

24. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the electric field establishing means comprises means for applying a positive potential to the support.

25. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising a rotatable endless surface as the support.

26. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising an environmental control means for regulating the temperature of the region where liquid issues from the outlet.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising means for supplying the active ingredient so that the at least one fiber or fibrils have a core containing the active ingredient.

29. (Previously Presented) A consumable or dissolvable tablet, pad or mat manufactured using a method in accordance with claim 34.

30. (Currently Amended) A consumable or dissolvable tablet produced by subjecting liquid comprising ~~the~~ a carrier material to a high electric field and comprising a porous web of fibers of [[a]] the carrier material carrying at least one active ingredient integral with said web of fibers, the carrier material being configured and arranged to melt, liquefy, dissolve or disintegrate on moist tissue surfaces selected from buccal, tongue, or eye and not ~~other than~~ those of the respiratory and gastrointestinal systems.

31. (Previously Presented) A consumable or dissolvable tablet of claim 30, wherein the web of fibers or fibrils are of gelatin, the liquid comprising gelatin.

32. (Previously Presented) A tablet according to claim 30, wherein the active ingredient comprises a pharmacologically or biologically active ingredient.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing tablets, comprising supplying a liquid containing a carrier through a supply tube to an outlet of the supply tube, establishing an electric field between the outlet and a support surface that is spaced from the outlet to cause liquid issuing from the outlet to form at least one fiber or fibrils of the carrier, causing the at least one fiber or fibrils to deposit onto the support surface to form a fibrous porous web or mat, forming a plurality of individual tablets from the web or mat, and providing the individual tablets with at least one active ingredient, the individual tablets being configured to melt, liquefy, disintegrate or dissolve on moist tissue surfaces

selected from buccal, tongue, or eye and not ~~other than~~ those of the respiratory and gastrointestinal systems, and further wherein said fiber or fibrils at least partially coat said active ingredient within said fiber web or mat.

35. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 34, wherein the forming arising from separating the fiber web or mat into the plurality of individual tablets.

36. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 35, wherein the separating is effected by cutting the fiber web or mat.

37. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 34, wherein the carrier is biodissolvable.

38. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 34, wherein the carrier is hydrophilic and biologically compatible.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 34, wherein the providing of the individual tablets with at least one active ingredient includes incorporating the at least one active ingredient in and/or on the individual tablets.

41. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 34, wherein the liquid consists essentially of a hydrophilic solution of gelatin, the deposit causing formation on the support surface of the fiber web or mat, the fiber web or mat consisting of at least one gelatin fiber as the afore-mentioned fiber or gelatin fibrils as the afore-mentioned fibrils, the forming of the individual tablets arising from separating the fiber web or mat, the providing of the at least one active ingredient including incorporating the at least one active ingredient and a sweetener into and/or on the individual tablets.

42. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 41, wherein the sweetener is saccharine.

43. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as in claim 19, further comprising means for separating the web or mat into the plurality of individual tablets, the means for

incorporating including means for incorporating the at least one active ingredient in the tablets.

44. (Previously Presented) A consumable or dissolvable tablet as in claim 30, wherein the carrier material is biodissolvable.

45. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 34, wherein the liquid consists essentially of a hydrophilic solution of gelatin, the deposit causing formation on the support surface of the fiber web or mat, the fiber web or mat consisting of at least one gelatin fiber as the afore-mentioned fiber or gelatin fibrils as the afore-mentioned fibrils, the forming of the individual tablets arising from separating the fiber web or mat, the providing of the at least one active ingredient including incorporating the at least one active ingredient and a sweetener into and/or on the individual tablets.

46. (Previously Presented) A consumable or dissolvable tablet, pad or mat manufactured using an apparatus in accordance with claim 19.

47. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as in claim 19, wherein the means for forming includes means for separating the individual tablets from the fiber web or mat.

48. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as in claim 47, wherein the means for separating includes means for cutting the fiber web or mat.

49-54. (Canceled)

55. (Previously Presented) A method of manufacturing tablets, comprising:

supplying a liquid containing a carrier along a supply tube to an outlet of the supply tube;

establishing an electric field between the outlet and a support surface spaced from the outlet to cause the liquid issuing from the outlet to form at least one fiber or fibril that deposits onto the support surface to form a fibrous porous mat or web;

separating the fiber mat or web into a plurality of individual tablets; and

providing the individual tablets with at least one active ingredient, the individual tablets being configured to melt, liquefy, disintegrate or dissolve on moist tissue

surfaces selected from buccal, tongue, or eye and not ~~other than~~ those of the respiratory and gastrointestinal systems.

56 and 57. (Canceled)

58. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 55, wherein the separating of the fiber mat or web into individual tablets occurs after formation of the fiber mat or web on the support surface.

59. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 55, wherein the separating of the fiber mat or web into individual tablets occurs during deposition of the at least one fiber or fibril onto the support surface.

60. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 55, wherein said fiber or fibril at least partially coats said active ingredient within said fiber web or mat.

61. (Previously Presented) A method for administering a tablet to a patient, comprising the step of:

(a) administering the tablet made by the apparatus of claim 19 to the moist tissue surfaces, other than the respiratory and gastrointestinal systems, of the patient.

62. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 61, wherein the moist surface is selected from buccal, tongue, eye, or wound surface.

63. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 61, wherein the moist tissue surface is buccal.

64. (Previously Presented) A method for administering a tablet to a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) administering the tablet made by the method of claim 34 to the moist tissue surfaces, other than the respiratory and gastrointestinal systems, of the patient.

65. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 64, wherein the moist tissue surface is selected from buccal, tongue, eye, or wound surface.

66. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 65, wherein the moist tissue surface is buccal.

67. (Previously Presented) Apparatus for manufacturing consumable or dissolvable tablets, comprising:

means for supplying a liquid containing a dissolvable carrier through a liquid supply tube to an outlet of the tube;

means for establishing an electric field between the outlet and a support surface spaced from the outlet to cause liquid issuing from the outlet to form at least one fiber or fibrils of the dissolvable carrier;

means for causing the fiber or fibrils to deposit onto the support surface to form a fibrous porous web or mat;

means for establishing a charge on a first portion of the support surface, the charge being opposite a charge on the fiber or fibrils; and

means for establishing a charge on a second portion of the support surface, the charge being like the charge on the fiber or fibrils.

68. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 67, further comprising:

means for incorporating at least one active ingredient into the web or mat, the individual tablets being configured to melt, liquefy, disintegrate, or dissolve on moist tissue surfaces other than those of the respiratory and gastrointestinal systems, and further wherein the fiber or fibrils at least partially coat the active ingredient within the web or mat.

69. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 67, wherein the liquid is a supply selected from a group consisting of a solution consisting essentially of 5 grams of gelatin in 7 to 9 millimeters of water and 10 to 11 millimeters of ethanol, or such materials in ratios equivalent thereto.

70. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 67, wherein the liquid is a supply of a solution consisting essentially of 5 grams of gelatin in 8 millimeters of water, 10 millimeters of ethanol, and 1 millimeter of peppermint flavoring, or such materials in ratios equivalent thereto.

RESPONSE

In the Claims

1. Claims 4-9, 11, 13-16, 18-26, 28-32, 34-38, 40-48, 55, 58-70 are pending in the Application.

2. Applicant expresses his appreciation for the allowance of claims 18-26, 28, 43, 47, and 48.

3. Claim 30 was discussed during the March 2, 2006 telephonic interview. Attorney for Applicant noted that claim 51, which depends from claim 30 includes the added limitations of "buccal, tongue, or eye" and noted that saliva particularly contains ptyalin amylase and tears particularly contain lysozyme. Starches and other complex carbohydrates are broken down in the mouth by amylase in saliva which would facilitate buccal delivery. Lysozyme is an enzyme that breaks apart the polysaccharide that compose the cell walls of many, chiefly non-pathogenic, bacteria. These bacterial polysaccharides consist of long chains of two alternating amino sugars, N-acetylglucosamine (NAG) and N-acetylmuramic acid (NAM). Synthetic versions of NAG-NAM would provide a selectively-dissolving matrix for the eye. Thus, the active ingredient would be released in the local environment by the action of a local enzyme for local delivery. The active ingredient could be intended to act locally, but it could be formulated to be absorbed locally and circulate regionally or even systemically. During the interview, the Examiners felt that it might be "OK" to include such limitations but made no commitment as to patentability. Claim 30 has been so amended, as, likewise, have claims 34 and 55, which were also discussed during the interview. Entry by the Examiner is respectfully requested. As amended, and based upon the results of the interview, Applicant submits these claims distinguish patentably over the art of record and further consideration by the Examiner, culminating in allowance, is respectfully requested.

4. Claim 67 was also discussed during the March 2, 2006 telephonic interview. Attorney for Applicant respectfully noted that claim 67 was not addressed in the Office Action

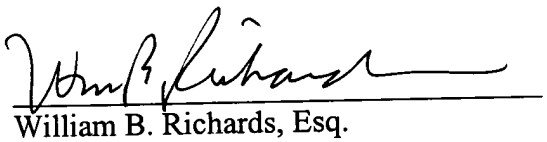
mailed January 11, 2006. Claim 67 comprehends an apparatus which includes means for establishing different charges on a support surface. The cited reference, Coffee, does not teach such a configuration. The Examiners noted they were "favorably disposed" toward allowing claim 67. Applicant again submits that claim 67 and its dependent claims distinguish patentably over the art of record further consideration by the Examiner, culminating in allowance, is respectfully requested.

Closure

1. The undersigned Attorney for Applicant has made a good faith effort to meet the concerns expressed by the Examiner in the Office Action and in the interview. If the Examiner still has some issues with the Application, and has any suggestions as to how to address them, the Examiner is invited to call the Attorney for Applicant at the phone number below, so that those issues may be resolved.

2. Applicant submits that this Application is now in condition for further favorable consideration, culminating in allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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